

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

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52. (New) A method comprising:

operating a laser device to produce an optical output signal having a free spectral range, the laser device having a resonant cavity and an intracavity waveguide segment having an effective refractive index;

determining the free spectral range of the optical output signal; and

responsive to the determined free spectral range, permanently modifying the effective refractive index of at least a portion of the intracavity waveguide segment so that the free spectral range substantially equals a predetermined value.

53. (New) The method of Claim 52 wherein permanently modifying the effective refractive index comprises illuminating the portion of the intracavity waveguide segment with a beam.

54. (New) The method of claim 53 wherein the beam comprises electromagnetic radiation selected to chemically alter the illuminated portion of the intracavity waveguide segment.

55. (New) The method of claim 54 wherein the portion of the intracavity waveguide segment comprises a polymer structure in which the electromagnetic radiation cause crosslinking.

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